

OCCURRENCE OF THE BARRACUDINA,  
*Paralepis atlantica* KRØYER,  
IN THE CENTRAL NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

The barracudina, *Paralepis atlantica* Krøyer, is a bathypelagic fish that has rarely been taken by fishing gear in the North Pacific Ocean; most specimens have been recorded from waters off California in the stomach contents of predators such as whales, fur seals, and scombroid fishes (Rofen, 1966; Kajimura, 1969). Kajimura (1969) extended the known range northward on the eastern Pacific to the Washington coast (lat 46°35' N, long 124°58' W) with a specimen taken from the stomach of a northern fur seal, *Calorhinus ursinus*. Maruyama (1958) and Ueno and Abe (1964) reported on three specimens taken by gill net and trawl from the western Pacific Ocean near Hokkaido, Japan (between lat 42° and 43° N and near long 144° E).

The specimen reported here extends the known range of the species northward and to the central Pacific Ocean (lat 48°00' N, long 165° 00' W). It was captured on 6 May 1969 in surface waters of 4.5° C with a gill net fished by the RV *George B. Kelez* of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Meristic characters for the specimen are given in Table 1 with ranges for the species as reported by Rofen (1966).

The specimen was torn in half when it was removed from the gill net, preventing accurate measurements; its estimated standard length was 420 mm. It is deposited in the collection of fishes (Catalog no. 20569) at the University of Washington, Seattle.

TABLE 1.—Meristic characters of the specimen compared with those given by Rofen (1966).

Meristic characters	Specimen	Range for species
Fin rays		
Dorsal	9	9-11
Anal	23	20-26
Pectoral	16	15-17
Gill rakers		
Above angle	10	7-10
Below angle	29	25-31
Vertebrae		
Total	61	60-73
Prehaemal	35	28-38

Literature Cited

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RICHARD G. BAKKALA

*National Marine Fisheries Service  
Biological Laboratory  
Seattle, Wash. 98102*